

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 174

BY SENATOR HENRY

A RESOLUTION

To recreate and provide for the Task Force on Energy Infrastructure and Modernization to study polices that promote energy self-generation, industrial microgrids, and expedited permitting in the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Louisiana is experiencing an increased demand for electricity that is driven by industrial expansion and power for data centers; and

WHEREAS, the long-term reliability and affordability of the state's electric grid are critical to sustaining economic growth and energy security; and

WHEREAS, delays in permitting, limited self-generation opportunities, and outdated infrastructure financing models may pose risks to grid stability and investment in key industries; and

WHEREAS, some states have enacted legislation to modernize their energy policies by allowing large customer microgrids and streamlining state permitting processes; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's industrial sector, which consumes over forty percent of the state's electricity, is asking for the ability to self-generate power, including through renewable sources, to meet corporate sustainability goals and mitigate escalating utility costs; and

WHEREAS, a study conducted for large industrial customers of Entergy Louisiana found that base rates for all customers are projected to rise ninety percent from 2018 to 2030, prompting industries to seek alternatives to traditional utility services; and

WHEREAS, allowing generators to serve large industrial loads directly, including multiple customers, could provide these industries with more control over energy sources and costs; and

WHEREAS, expanded deployment of commercially available technologies that add capacity to existing transmission and distribution infrastructure, can reduce grid congestion and strain; and

WHEREAS, commercially available technologies known as Advanced Transmission Technologies (ATTs) are modern electric transmission systems, equipment, and operational

tools that augment and improve the electric grid by building on existing transmission and distribution infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, ATTs may provide a stronger, more flexible grid, increasing capacity and efficiency, reducing congestion, integrating a variety of generation sources, improving energy security, and reducing costs for consumers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby reestablish and provide for the Task Force on Energy Infrastructure and Modernization, as created by Senate Resolution No. 195 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature, to study proposals for legislation that promote energy self-generation, industrial microgrids, and expedited permitting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force should include consideration and evaluation of all of the following:

(1) Alternatives to traditional utility regulations for new utility-scale merchant generators built primarily to serve co-located large industrial loads, with consideration given to regulatory flexibility, market impacts, and system reliability.

(2) The potential for generators and industrial loads to interconnect with the grid, provided the interconnection would not reasonably be expected to reduce the reliability of the grid or result in increased costs to residential ratepayers.

(3) A legal framework that would allow generators to serve large industrial loads directly, including multiple customers.

(4) Statutory reforms to expedite permitting for energy infrastructure projects, including firm timelines for approval by permitting agencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of the same membership as provided by Senate Resolution No. 195 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature and shall include a representative of the alternative energy industry and a consumer advocate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to carry out its duties, the task force is authorized to receive input, assistance, and expert opinions from individuals and organizations in the energy industry, including but not limited to stakeholders with specialized knowledge relevant to energy generation and grid modernization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the task force shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All official actions of the task force shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be individually entitled as members of their constituent organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate on March 1, 2028.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the Senate, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs, the secretary of the Department of Conservation and Energy, the secretary of Louisiana Economic Development, the secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality, and the executive secretary of the Public Service Commission.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE